Bible & Daily Living

History's puzzle

By WILLIAM L. TRIMYER
The Puzzle of History
Lesson for March 22, 1981
Bible Study Passage: Matthew 23:37-24:14

Introduction

Many have attempted to outguess God in offering a date for the visible return of Christ and the final climax of history. Christ warned us about making our own conclusions concerning the end of time. Some persons spend perhaps too much time over the hereafter rather than concerning themselves with the here and now. The Apostle Paul warned against dropping what we've been doing and waiting for the Lord's return. While we wait we are to carry on with living, working, loving, laughing, playing, gardening, and serving one another in the spirit of Christ.

Christ and The City [Matthew 23:37-39]

Christ was a compassionate man who lamented over the city that became a city of death - his death. He was deeply hurt over the city of God that became a persecutor of prophets. How sad that such a city should become a place of horror and violence. Jerusalem, a "holy city" where flesh was cheap-cheap enough to nail the Christ of God to a splintered gallows!

Jesus weeps for a city that could have enjoyed the comfort and shadow of God's "wings." The people of Jerusalem learned only too late what joy they could have known in following the Christ of God. The Roman soldier who remarked too late, "Truly, he was the Son of God," pretty well describes the mood of the city.

We may wonder if Christ gazes upon our world and weeps over the sorrow, the violence, the lack of brother and sisterhood among us.

Christ and The Church [Matthew 24:1-3]

In the closing moments of Jesus' life he confronted his disciples with the glaring truth that even the Holy Temple would one day bow to the end of time. The disciples were obviously puzzled by Jesus' talk of the end of time. They naturally believed this event would come to fruition in the not too distant future.

The message to the church in every age is to work for the night is coming. The church must never relinquish its commitment and divine calling to speak and act for a wayward world and broken humanity. The church possesses the keys to life and death in its portrayal of Christ in both word and deed.

Christ and The Future [Matthew 24:4-8]

Christians today face a smorgasbord of cults and "religious leaders" offering the "road to truth." Quite often such "leaders" twist the biblical narrative to say what they wish for it to say.

We can become too preoccupied with "last things" to the point of "morbid fascination." Life is designed to be lived as a period of growth and celebration. It is not merely a stepping stone to the hereafter. Christ wants us to get the most mileage out of our earthy pilgrimage. The end comes only too quickly for many persons.

Our home is here for the time being. God has promised us a "home" in his house when time is called on the earth's divine historic pilgrimage. There we shall continue our pilgrimage in a timeless residence where we shall celebrate and live life in a broader dimension.

Christ and His Followers [Matthew 24:9-14]

Christ never believed that his followers would have an easy time of things. The church has known prosecution and opposition throughout its history. The church will always face the negative forces in the world in its struggle to proclaim and minister to broken humanities.

The church's mission is to carry the Gospel of Christ to all people in the world. In the spirit of Christ the church moves with unfailing effort to bring light and hope to what is often a dark and hopeless looking world.

Dr. Trimyer is Chaplain at Burnham Hospital in Champaign, Illinois (WLYP).

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THE APPOMATTOX Jr. Chapter FFA held a basketball tournament in the Appomattox Middle School gym. The following people of Mr. Wiggins first period class won the basketball tournament. (Left to right) Terry Morgan, James Fleshman, Neal Davis, John Hurt, and Terry McCoy.

The Pastor Speaks

By CARL H. PATTON

A floating palace sailed from Southampton, England in 1898 on her maiden voyage. It was the biggest and grandest liner ever built, and rich passengers savored its luxury as they journeyed to the United States. That ship, however, never made its destination. Its hull was ripped open by an iceberg, and it sank with heavy loss of life.

That liner existed only on paper, in the imagination of a novelist named Morgan Robertson. The name he gave his ship was, TITAN; the name of the book was **Futility.**

Fourteen years later a real luxury liner set out on a similar maiden voyage. It too was laden with rich passengers. It too was rammed by an iceberg and sank. It too suffered heavy loss of life because there were not enough lifeboats. On April 14, 1912 the **TITANIC** sank in two hours forty minutes with a loss of 1,513 people.

However, the story of the giant ships did not stop there, for twenty-three years later a young seaman named William Reaves was standing watch on the bow of a tramp steamer, Canada bound from England in 1935. It was April, the month of the iceberg disasters, both real and fictional. Young Reaves brooded deeply on them. His watch was to end at midnight, the time the Titanic had hit the iceberg. The sea was calm. Thoughts of disaster swelled into omens, and the seaman stood straining to see through the horizonless fog. He was afraid to shout the alarm, afraid not to.

Suddenly, he remembered the date of the Titanic disaster, April 14, 1912, his own birthday! He shouted out the warning; the headsman rang the signal; engines full astern. The ship churned to a halt - just yards from a huge iceberg that towered out of the night. More deadly icebergs crowded in around the ship, and it took nine days for icebreakers from New Foundland to smash a way clear. The name of the ship that nearly shared the fate of the Titanic was the Titanic was the TITANIAN.

Coincidence, perhaps, fate, perhaps, the Hand of God, likely it was a mixture, and as individual people are living lives very like those of the nation Israel of the Old Testament. In 2 Chronicles 7:14, God calls to Israel, saying, "if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." Many of us are afraid to cry out the warning, yet, we ar. also afraid not to. We're fanning all in the midnight calm, we as individuals sit in the midnight calm. Someone needs to begin sounding an alarm, or else disaster will fall on us unexpectedly. The U.S.A. has been called a Christian nation. The only way that will ever be true, is if we all begin encouraging each other to turn from our wicked ways, and pray. Beware of the midnight calm.

Carl H. Patton is pastor of Hebron Baptist Church in Appomattox.

Letter

School activities need community support

Editor:

On Tuesday, March 10 I had the privilege of attending a concert held at A.C.H.S. The music for this concert was provided by the Jazz Express directed by Mr. Frank Coffey, music director at A.C.H.S. and by the Starliters led by Mr. Gene Phelps of Lynchburg and formerly of Appomattox.

This was a most enjoyable concert. The music by the Jazz Express was fantastic and the Starliters were also excellent. Mr. Coffey is most talented and a very capable person. We are fortunate to have him directing our children. What really bothers me was the fact that we had so few people attending. I can understand why our teenagers get so discouraged and frustrated at times. We have such talented people among us and it is a shame that we do not support them in whatever they do. Mr. Coffey and the Jazz Express deserve a lot of credit for this concert. The musicians that performed with the Jazz Express were our teenagers at A.C.H.S. - not professional musicians - but they really are in my way of thinking. I sincerely hope the next time there is anything at A.C.H.S. we will try and support our young people. They need us and we need them.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Crawford [Dot] Davidson

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Miss Tammy Marie Womack

Miss Womack to wed Mr. Glenn

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ryland Womack, of Pamplin, announce the engagement of their daughter, Tammy Marie, to Kenwood Twyman Glenn, son of Mrs. Clemmie Glenn Gobble, and the late Robert Lee Glenn, of Hixburg.

Miss Womack is a 1980 graduate of Appomattox County High School and is presently attending Longwood College.

Mr. Glenn, a 1974 graduate of Appomattox County High School, is presently co-manager of King's in Appomattox.

The wedding is planned for June 27, 1981 at 2 p.m. at Hixburg's Presbyterian Church.

Friends and relatives are invited to attend.

Miss Virginia Godwin

Miss Lusardi will wed Mr. Cox

Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Joseph Lusardi of Brookneal announce the engagement of their daughter, Virginia Godwin, to Mr. Ronald Edward Cox, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Astor Cox of Altavista.

Miss Lusardi graduated from The College of William and Mary with a B.A. degree in education. She is a member of the faculty at Leesville Road Elementary School.

Mr. Cox attended Hampden-Sydney College and graduated with a B.A. degree in history from Lynchburg College. He received a M. Ed degree from the University of Alabama. He is on the faculty at William Campbell High School.

Miss Lusardi is the granddaughter of the late Senator and Mrs. Charles Thomas Moses of Appomattox and the late Mr. and Mrs." Herman Lusardi of Cranford, New Jersey.

The wedding will take place the evening of June 20 in Appomattox.

Mrs. Clayton R. Kirby

Miss Hogan is wed to Mr. Kirby

The marriage of Donna A. Hogan to Clayton Roger Kirby took place Sat., Feb. 14, 1981 at the United Methodist Church, Richlands, N. C. The Rev. H. Bizzell officated at the 2 p.m. ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Betty Rodgers of Appomattox and Mr. Donald Hogan of Beaulaville, N. C. The bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Charlotte Kirby of Richlands, N. C.

Given in marriage by her father the bride was attended by Mrs. Tana Taylor, matron of honor, of Raleigh, N. C. Bridesmaids were Ms. Becky MacIntosh of Lynchburg, Ms. Ann Sears of Richmond and Ms. Kimberly Harrison of Raleigh, N. C.

Clifton Kirby of Kinston, N. C. was his brother's best man and ushers were Pat Page and Al Strikal of Wilmington, N. C and Wayne Jarman of Richlands, N. C.

The reception was held immediately following the ceremony in the fellowship hall of the church.

After a trip to South Carolina the couple will make their home in Wilmington, N. C.

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Miss Criswell to wed Mr. Krajewski

Dr. and Mrs. George Raymond Criswell of Amherst announce the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth Anne, to Paul Russell Krajewski, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stanley Krajewski of Lynchburg.

Miss Criswell attended Seven Hills School in Lynchburg and graduated from Amherst County High School. She attended Longwood College and is presently a student at Central Virginia Community College. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Criswell of Enid, Okla. and the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles Franklin Hamilton of Burlington, Okla.

Mr. Krajewski graduated from Appomattox County High School and is attending Central Virginia Community College, and employed at Esteppe Oldsmobile/Datsun. He is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Krajewski of Terryville, Conn. and the late Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Rittenberry of Danville.

The wedding is planned for June 12, at 2 p.m. in the Amherst Presbyterian Church.

Garden Club slates meeting

Mr. David Coffman of Westvaco will be the guest speaker at the March 23 meeting at 7:30 p.m. of the Appomattox Garden Club at St. Anne's Episcopal Church. Members are looking forward to hearing his discussion.

Plans will be finalized for the forthcoming Flower Show "Spring Awakens" to be held Saturday, April 4 at Memorial United Methodist Church. This beautiful and creative event will be open to the public from 3 to 9 p.m. There will be table settings and arrangements for patio breakfasts, tea tables, T.V. brunches, church altar arrangements, designs in miniature and a host of fresh and dried flower designs. The educational exhibit will feature birds in prints and statuary forms. Admission will be $1.00 for adults and 50 cents for students. Everyone is cordially invited to attend especially anyone with interest in flowers and their design. Mrs. Edith Nash is the show chairman.

The Garden Club members each express their sincerest thanks to J. E. Sears and Co. and Mr. Ivey Holland for the beautiful tea roses given to them. Each garden welcomes the new addition.

Concord club meets

The regular monthly meeting of the Concord Garden Club was held Mar. 9 in the home of Mrs. Emma Mae Braund with Mrs. Charles F. Jones and Mrs. Kelly Webb as co-hostesses.

Mrs. James Hancock, Jr. conducted an open judging session and the results are:

Arrangements - "March Wind", Mrs. James Hammond-Blue; **"St. Patrick's Day"**-Mrs. C. "Ray" Carson-blue, Mrs. James Hammond-Blue, Mrs. James MacKenzie-Blue; **"Branch Out for Spring"**-2 blues, Mrs. C. "Ray" Carson and Mrs. James Hammond. **Specimen:**Burfidi Holly-Blue-Mrs. M. M. Roberts; Evonimus-Blue-Mrs. James MacKenzie; Philodendron-Yellow-Mrs. C. "Ray" Carson; Swedish Ivy-Yellow-Mrs. C. "Ray" Carson; Pink Wax Begonia-Blue-Mrs. C. "Ray" Carson; White Japonica-Blue-Mrs. C. "Ray" Carson; Branch Maple-Red-Mrs. C. "Ray" Carson. **Houseplants:** Cactus-Blue-Mrs. J. W. Pratt; Palm-Blue-Mrs. James MacKenzie; Variegated Nephlytis-Blue-Mrs. James MacKenzie; Shamrock-White-Mrs. James MacKenzie.

An amendment and officers are to be voted for at the April meeting April 13 at 10 a.m. in the home of Mrs. James Hancock, Jr.

J.W.C. sponsors pageant

The Appomattox Junior Woman's Club is sponsoring the Little Miss Appomattox Pageant Sunday, May 17 at 2:00 p.m. at Appomattox County High School.

There will be two age divisions: Little Miss, ages 5-8; and Young Miss, ages 9-12. This pageant will be limited to residents of Appomattox County and the winners will have their entry fee paid to the 1981 Virginia State Pageant August 7-8 in Hampton.

Registration forms are available at the **Times-Virginian** office, Farmers and Fidelity banks. The deadline for registration is April 28. For further information call Evelyn Ford 352-8690 or Mary Ellen Watson 352-7534.

Proceeds from this project will go towards the Appomattox Junior Woman's Club philanthropic budget.

U.D.C. will meet Thursday

The Appomattox Chapter of the United Daughters of Confederacy will meet on Thursday, March 19 at noon at Maude's Restaurant.

All members are urged to attend.

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Con-Terra women slate beauty pageant

The Con-Terra Woman's Club of Concord, Virginia, is sponsoring The Second Annual Womanless Beauty Pageant entitled, "The Blossoms of Spring" to be held on Saturday, March 21, at 8:00 p.m. at the Concord Elementary School on Route 24 in Concord. Tickets will be $3.00 for adults and $2.00 for children 12 years old and under. Lynchburg's own WSET-TV Weather Forecaster, Charles Middleton, will be the Pageant's Master of Ceremonies again this year.

Births announced

Roger Charles Meadows and Mary Kathryn Meadows proudly announce the birth of their first child, a son, Christopher Joseph, born on February 23, 1981.

Christopher was born at 10:39 p.m. in Virginia Baptist Hospital, Lynchburg, Va. He weighed 7 pounds and was 21 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Taylor of Richmond, Va.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Meadows of Appomattox, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Phillip B. Lucado proudly announce the birth of a daughter, Carrie Ann, born on February 18, in Virginia Baptist Hospital. Carrie Ann weighed 7 lbs. 10 ounces.

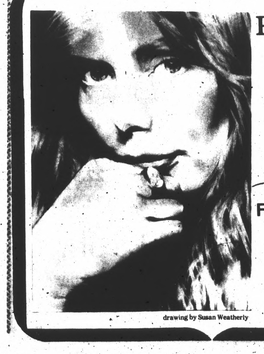
Nurseys are also the parents of another daughter, Mandy, age 2.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. Robert C. Winston and Mrs. Waverly H. Winston of Appomattox.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Basil J. Lucado of Appomattox.

Notice

Attention, Easter Seal Skaters! Please bring your pledges to A. J. Skatorama on Saturday, March 21 from 2 to 4 p.m.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